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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/978,391	10/16/2001	Gary H. Knauf	56766.US	4251

408 7590 06/03/2003

LUEDEKA, NEELY & GRAHAM, P.C.
P O BOX 1871
KNOXVILLE, TN 37901

EXAMINER

DIXON, MERRICK L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1774

DATE MAILED: 06/03/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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DATE MAILED:

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.
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OFFICE ACTION SUMMARY

- ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 D.C. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1-43 is/are pending in the application.
- Of the above, claim(s) 30-36 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 1-29, 37-43 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
- ☐ received.
- ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____
- ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

- ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of Reference Cited, PTO-892
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 6
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

MERRICK DIXON
PRIMARY EXAMINER

- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES -

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The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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Claims 1-29 and 37-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sugihara(4276334) in view of Laiho et al(5700586).

The cited primary reference teaches the basic claimed invention including a method for affixing strip material on a substrate comprising the steps of applying said strip material, in a particular manor, on a substrate and coating the resulting strip material along with the substrate with and additional layer – col 5, line 61- col 6, line 65; figures 3-15. although the cited primary reference teaches the coating step as claimed – col 4, lines 29-33, it fails to teach that such step including extruding same coating. The secondary reference teaches that it is known in the art to facilitate similarly claimed extrusion step in the process of coating similar substrate as taught by the primary reference- col 2, lines 49-60; col 6, lines 1-16. it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention is made to combine the teaching of the secondary reference and employ such well known extrusion step , as taught by the

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secondary reference, to coat the resulting strip-material to the substrate. Such would have been obvious in the absence of unexpected results to coat same with desired material to impart desired effects on the resulting product. Concerning claims 25-28, the secondary reference teaches the claimed limitations which would have been obvious in the obvious combined teachings of the references- see col 2, lines 61-63; col 6, lines 34-47. Concerning claims 3, 4, 20, 39 and 40, the primary reference teaches the claimed limitations in col 2, lines 12-16. see entire reference, also. Concerning claims 5 and 6, the secondary reference indeed teaches the claimed limitations. Concerning claims 22, 23, 41, 42, the secondary reference teaches the claimed limitations in col 4, lines 55-58; col 2, lines 12-30 of the primary reference. Concerning claims 8 and 9, the primary reference teaches the claimed limitations in figs 2 and 3. concerning claims 10, 12, 29, the cited primary reference teaches the claimed limitations in col 5, lines 20-24; col 4, lines 45-50. concerning claims 7, 23, 41 and 42- the primary reference teaches the claimed limitations in col 2, lines 40-43. concerning claims 13- 18, and 21, the primary reference teaches the claimed limitations in col 3, lines 67-col 4, line 4; figs 2-10. concerning claim 19, the primary reference teaches the claimed limitations- see fig 1b. concerning claims 7, 23, 22, 41 and 42, the secondary reference teaches the claimed limitations in col 2, lines 40-43; see entire reference.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Merrick Dixon whose telephone number is 703-308-0013. The examiner can normally be reached on m-th.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cynthia Kelly can be reached on 703-308-0013. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9514 for regular communications and 703-305-5408 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-1235.


MERRICK DIXON
PRIMARY EXAMINER